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XA-10290

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of:

ALI, Mohammed et al.

Intl. Appln. No.: PCT/GB2003/003903

Intl. Filing Date: 9 September 2003

U.S. Appln. No.: 10/527,167

For: CLAMPING APPARATUS FOR ADJUSTABLE STEERING COLUMN
FOR A VEHICLE

* * *

RENEWED PETITION UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.47(a)

Mail Stop PCT
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Attention: Office of PCT Legal Administration

Sir:

In response to the Decision mailed on July 12, 2006, reconsideration of Applicant's Petition Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.47(a) is respectfully requested in light of the additional supporting evidence submitted herewith.

The Decision held that the initial Declaration from Mr. Laurence Barton did not provide a sufficient showing that that co-inventor Mohammed Ali knew specifically which invention was being discussed when he refused to sign the

Declaration or accept the application papers from Mr.
Barton.

Submitted herewith is a Supplemental Declaration from
Mr. Barton setting forth additional facts concerning Mr.
Ali's refusal to join in this application. The facts set
forth in Mr. Barton's Supplemental Declaration clearly show
that Mr. Ali knew specifically which invention was being
discussed when he refused to join in this application.

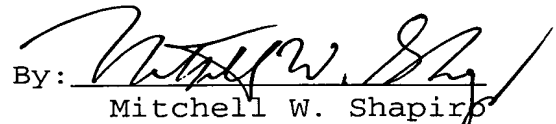
Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that this
application now be accepted for the U.S. National Stage
pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.47(a).

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge to
Deposit Account No. 50-1165 any fees that may be required by
this paper and to credit any overpayment to that Account.
If any extension of time is required in connection with the
filing of this paper and has not been separately requested,
such extension is hereby requested.

Respectfully submitted,

MWS:

Miles & Stockbridge P.C.
1751 Pinnacle Drive, Suite 500
McLean, Virginia 22102-3833
(703) 903-9000

By: 
Mitchell W. Shapiro
Reg. No. 31,568

February 12, 2007



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SUPPLEMENTAL DECLARATION IN SUPPORT OF
PETITION UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.47(a)

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

I, Laurence Barton, hereby supplement my Declaration
dated March 3, 2006, as follows:

1. I understand that the United States Patent Office
has requested further evidence to show that Mr. Mohammed
Ali knew specifically which invention was the subject of my
attempts, as described in my previous Declaration, to
obtain his signature for the instant national stage
application. In particular, I understand that the Patent

Office has requested copies of the text messages referred to in my previous Declaration, or other evidence, for this purpose.

2. The text messages referred to in my previous Declaration were sent via my cellular telephone. I have no copies of those messages.

3. However, I can state with certainty that Mr. Ali knew specifically that the instant invention was the subject of my attempts to obtain his signature for this application.

4. Mr. Ali's work at NSK resulted in only two inventions for which patent applications were filed. The first of these inventions, which is the subject of the instant application, relates to a steering column clamping apparatus that uses clamping plate surfaces of different hardness to provide increased friction and clamping load. The second invention, for which patent protection was applied for only in the United Kingdom, relates to a steering column clamping apparatus which uses a hydrogen-enriched clamping plate surface to produce a friction-enhancing plate interface by chemical reaction with an adjacent plate clamping surface.

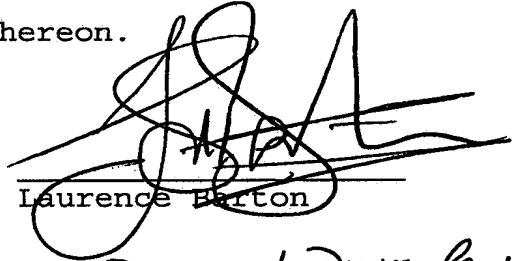
5. Mr. Ali knew that the aforementioned inventions were the only two inventions for which NSK had filed patent applications based on his work.

6. In my previously described attempts to obtain Mr. Ali's signature for this application, including at least my direct telephone discussions with him, I informed Mr. Ali that I was seeking his signature on the documents for the U.S. national stage of the PCT application for his invention involving clamping plate surfaces of different hardness. Mr. Ali thus knew specifically that it was the instant invention, and not his invention for chemically reactive clamping plates (or any other invention), which was being discussed when he refused to accept the application papers or sign the Declaration for this application.

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under § 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful

false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

11TH FEBRUARY 2007
Date



Laurence Barton

DESIGN & DEVELOPMENT
MANAGER.